(b) 57 telephone exchanges are connected with Digital Microwave System at present in the State.

(c) 14 telephone exchanges are likely to be opened in Jammu and Kashmir during 2004-05.

Retention of Licensing Power by DoT

719. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom policy of 1991 has been revamped and the Department of Telecom has decided to retain licensing powers;

(b) if so, to what extent this telecom policy of 1999 has been revamped and what are the changes likely to be made; and

(c) to what extent it would be more beneficial than 1991 policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) There was no Telecom Policy of 1991.

(b) An Addendum to the New Telecom Policy-1999 was issued in November, 2003 for Unified Licence for Telecommunication Services and Unified Access Service Licence permitting Licensee to provide all telecommunication/telegraph services covering various geographical areas using any technology and to provide Basic and/or Cellular Services using and technology in a defined service area. Keeping in view the rapidly changing technology, the Government feel that there is scope and need for suitably reviewing and revamping the NTP-1999. Necessary changes will be brought in at the appropriate time and no time-frame can be fixed at this stage.

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Upgradation of PCO centres

720. SHRIMATIKUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCO centres in the country that have been upgraded as multiple internet service centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether any such proposal is under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS <\ND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, 2552 number of PCO centres have been upgraded to provide internet service n Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited. In respect of Mahanagar Telephone Nligam Limited, no PCO has been upgraded.

(b) The circle-wise details of PCO centres that have been upgraded to Drovide internet service are given in the enclosed Statement (See below).

(c) Does not arise in view of (a) and (b) above.

Statement

Circle-wise details of upgraded PCO centres

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	No. of PCO Centre upgraded as multiple internet service centres
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2161
2.	Gujarat	42
3.	Haryana	10
4.	Himachal Pradesh	9
5.	Jharkhand	3
6.	Kerala	35
7.	Madhya Pradesh	44
8.	Tamil Nadu	20
9.	Uttaranchal	20
10.	West Bengal	208
	TOTAL:	2552